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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/3/02 11:32am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The DOJ wants to hear from YOU!

For nearly four years, my voice has been instrumental in the debate over the freedom to innovate. Tens of thousands of concerned citizens have communicated to their public officials about whether the Microsoft case should be settled or further litigated. Despite the aggressive lobbying efforts of a few of Microsoft's competitors, the federal government and nine states finally reached a comprehensive agreement with Microsoft to address the reduced liability found in the Court of Appeals ruling. This settlement is tough, but reasonable and fair to all parties involved. Consumers overwhelmingly agree that settlement is good for them, the industry and the American economy.

However, this settlement is not guaranteed, and my voice is more important than ever.

The law (officially called the Tunney Act) requires a public comment period between now and January 28th after which the District Court will determine whether the settlement is in the "public interest." Unfortunately, a few special interests are attempting to use this review period to derail the settlement and prolong this litigation even in the midst of uncertain economic times. The last thing the American economy needs is more litigation that benefits only a few wealthy competitors and stifles innovation. Don't let these special interests defeat the public interest.

The Department of Justice will then take all public comments and viewpoints and include them in the public record for the District Court to consider. Please send your comments directly to the Department of Justice via email or fax no later than January 28th. Whatever your view of the settlement, it is critical that the government hears directly from consumers. Please take action today to ensure your voice is heard.

I AM IN FAVOR OF TAKING THE SETTLEMENT THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED AND LETTING THIS MATTER BE SETTLED ONCE AND FOR ALL. ANY FURTHER LITIGATION WILL DO NOTHING BUT MAKE A LOT OF LITIGATORS WEALTHY AND THAT IS NOT NEEDED AT THIS TIME IN OUR LIVES.

THANKS FOR TAKING THE TIME TO LISTEN TO MY COMMENTS.

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